?:Crowder J-S (1955-1958) 1959
MS37 Senegal MS37
W01of MS 30

W 300 hair fixed on either side of the head, from which they protrude like thin curled horns. Another trick is to fix balls of black velvet or twists of black sisal. Strands of soft black silk are commonly used in their coiffure today, and they hang in nearly every small store, a baffling commodity to those unacquainted with Jollof fashions.

W 301 To these wigs the rich and fashionable Jollof woman fixes huge pendants of gold filigree, beautifully worked by the local craftsmen. The really chic touch is a bunch of gold coins—Louis D'Ors, American dollars and Franz-Josephs, or English Guineas—hanging from false plaits over the forehead, preferably coquettishly to one side. Gold is indispensable to their ensemble. A really [556] wealthy Jollof lady seems to be covered with it: great ear-rings, pin brooches, heavy gold rings on the finger, ear-rings and tiny rings placed all round the outside of the ear and Tudor toe-rings.

W 302 A Jollof woman spends considerable time on her make-up. [304] Her lips are tattooed with indigo, sometimes even on their pink insides. A thin blue line is tattooed on to the lower eyelid, immediately under the lashes, making her eyes seem much larger than they are. Eyelashes are painted with black dye, and the white palms of the hands and the soles of the feet are stained black as well. Their long, bejewelled fingers are crowned with nails painted with red nail varnish or an orange stain.

W 291 [197] This ensemble gives the Jollof woman something of the gracious artificiality of appearance that marked the fashions of the Empire period. Geoffrey Gorer,* in his book *Africa Dances*, described their behaviour as continually provocative. 'Their [538] movement, their glances, their sighs, their manner of speaking, are all, almost subconsciously, alluring.'

So striking is the Jollof dress that it has been adapted by African women all over the Senegal, and is copied as far distant as Niger and Ivory Coast.

A CULTURAL DILEMMA

Dakar

S 545 One evening Arnold and I went to the Théâtre du Palais, a [368] small, neat theatre owned by the Government in the centre of [655] Dakar. We were to see a production of tribal dancing by Sereres

*[this should read Gorer--Analyst]

Wilmot-Botham et al. K-4 (no date) 1964 MSS? Senegal 905.39

Cape Rouge to Sangomar Point

The hills are near the shore at least as far as the Somone, but the shoreline is fringed with sandy beaches and occasional mangrove swamps. Popenguin, 6 miles from Cape Rouge, has a Roman Catholic church, and, 1½ miles farther, Cape Nase rises to 236 feet. Inland there is a hill of 400 feet. Three miles beyond the cape the river Somone finds its way to the sea through a patch of mangrove-woodland. The coast runs south-eastwards by means of a series of small bays, and the country is more settled and cultivated. A number of sandspits can also be distinguished. These have been built by the prevailing current, and they have either blocked or diverted the short streams and marigots. From the village of Somone, which is a little distance from the river of that name, there is a minor road to Ngaparou, Portudal, and M'Bour (p. 450). Portudal's great days are over, but ships can still anchor about 3½ miles off shore in a depth of 5½ fathoms. There is a reef to seaward of the beach, but west of the village a break allows access to a creek, where landing is possible. There are many other reefs and shoals off this part of the coast. Inland, the road is continued near the shore to Joal, but in many places its surface is very rough indeed. Two miles beyond M'Bour the Balling, a seasonal river, meets the sea, and, 3 miles farther still, is Nianing, a local centre for tracks. From here the coast runs almost due south to Sarène point, a low and sandy promontory. After this the road goes inland a little to avoid a shallow bight, heavily fringed with mangroves and crossed by several marshy streams. South of this, and 1 mile north of Senti point, is the village of Nguenbil, conspicuous by reason of its Roman Catholic church. Joal (p. 450) is 2½ miles farther south-east. From this place onwards the coast is extremely swampy and is cut up by creeks and estuaries. Only the principal features can be noted here.

Eleven and a half miles beyond Joal stands the little village of Diakhanor. This marks the northern end of a strip of land which is strongly reminiscent of the Langue de Barbarie. It has been built by the Saloum and the sea, and it separates them for about 10 miles. An old mouth of the river is clearly observable 6 miles south of Diakhanor, and the end of the strip is called Sangomar point.

Sangomar Point to the Frontier of the Gambia

The Saloum is navigable upstream for sea-going vessels for about 100 miles, and on its banks and those of its tributary the Sine

Sir Matthew Nathan et al. K-4 (no date) 1944 1937? Senegal DS 37
DS 36

S 447 with which the Society of the Holy Spirit was united in 1848. About the same time a house of the Sisters of the Immaculate Conception (the Blue Sisters) was established at Dakar, which has been the Roman Catholic metropolis of French West Africa ever since.

In 1906, on the separation of Church and State in France, the government subsidies to the Roman Catholic missions were withdrawn. In 1930 the Roman Catholics in Senegal had 67 European S [162] priests, sisters, and lay workers aided by 175 native catechists and S teachers. Professing Roman Catholics numbered 22,300. A mag- [368] nificent cathedral, the work of many years, was consecrated at Dakar in 1936.

The only Protestant mission in Senegal is that of the Société des S Missions Évangéliques de Paris, which began work in the colony in [167] 1863. Its adherents number about a hundred.

8. DISTRIBUTION OF POPULATION AND INLAND TOWNS

Distribution of Population

S *Senegal*

161 Senegal is the third most densely populated colony, with an average of 21·58 persons per square mile and a total population in 1937 of 1,866,374. The distribution, however, varies greatly within the colony itself. The regions of Fouta and Ferlo are almost uninhabitable, while the provinces of Baol, Sine-Saloum, and Thiès have more than 50 persons per square mile. The coastal provinces of Bignona and Ziguinchor, south of the Gambia, are equally closely S settled. The left bank of the Senegal, roughly from Bakel to Podor, [311] supports a fairly dense agricultural population. [36]

Growth has been steady, the figures for 1921, 1926, and 1931 being 1,225,523, 1,318,287, and 1,584,273 respectively. There is no doubt that the colony is capable of supporting many more inhabitants than it does at present.

S 162 *Natives.* More than 580,000 Ouolofs live in Senegal. These are 563 among the most energetic and intelligent peoples of the Federation, W and they provide the bulk of the famous Senegalese Tirailleurs. [162] There are about 250,000 each of Sérères, Mandingos, and Fulani, [701] and 150,000 Toucouleur. Broadly speaking, the Ouolofs live north and east of Dakar, the Sérères south-east thereof, the Toucouleur

22: Winterbotham et al. K-4 (no date) 1944 MS37 Senegal MS37 Dakar

History

Until the middle of the nineteenth century Dakar was a Lebou village. In 1846, however, a Roman Catholic convent was built there, and eleven years later the village and the Cape Verde peninsula were officially occupied. In 1858 the French Government signed a contract with the Messageries Impériales (now the Messageries Maritimes) whereby ships sailing between Bordeaux and Rio de Janeiro would call at Dakar. The company acquired 7½ acres of land near Dakar point, and in 1863 a small jetty was built. This was the beginning of the port. In 1864 a lighthouse was constructed near Cape Verde and three years later two others, respectively at Almadi point and at Cape Manuel. In 1885 the railway to St. Louis was opened. It was not, however, until 1898 that the idea was conceived of making Dakar a big naval base, and by 1910 it was capable of accommodating vessels of all types. Further improvements have since been effected, and to-day the dry dock is big enough to take a battleship.

The Town

Dakar has grown so as to cover the southern part of the Cape Verde peninsula, but the port is on the east side of the town. On the south-west are the cliffs of Madeleines bay and on the south-east those of Bernard bay. Dakar point marks the northern end of the latter. North of the port is Bel Air point, the southern limit of Hann bay.

The medina or native town, which contains nearly half the population, is to the north-west of the main town. The intercolonial road enters the latter from the north and is continued as the Avenue Gambetta and the Avenue Maginot to an open space where stands the Roman Catholic cathedral. East of the cathedral is the Residence of the Governor-General (Vol. II Plate 58), magnificently situated on the top of the cliffs overlooking Bernard bay. Further south are the British Consulate, the Pasteur Institute, the botanical gardens, and, almost at Cape Manuel, the isolation hospital. The buildings of the army headquarters are near Dakar point. West of them are the port offices, the telephone exchange, the principal market, the Mairie (Plate 117), and the law courts. The town contains innumerable shops and offices and many clubs, cafés, hotels, and other amenities of modern civilization.